

NEWS RELEASE

OFFICE OF THE UNITED STATES ATTORNEY WESTERN DISTRICT OF MISSOURI

TODD P. GRAVES

JULY 29, 2004 FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

NORWOOD FUGITIVE PLEADS GUILTY TO ILLEGAL POSSESSION OF STOLEN FIREARM

SPRINGFIELD, Mo. – Todd P. Graves, United States Attorney for the Western District of Missouri, announced that a Norwood, Mo., fugitive pleaded guilty in federal court today to illegally possessing a stolen firearm.

Kyle William Stockman, 34, of Norwood, Mo., pleaded guilty before U.S. District Judge Richard E. Dorr this morning to being a felon in possession of a firearm.

By pleading guilty, **Stockman** admitted that he was in possession of a Armscor .38-caliber revolver and a Stevens 12-gauge shotgun with ammunition on Jan. 4, 2003, in Wright County, Mo. Under federal statutes, Graves explained, it is illegal for any felon to be in possession of a firearm or ammunition. **Stockman** has one 1994 Missouri State felony conviction for stealing, two 1995 Missouri State criminal felony convictions for forgery and property damage and one 1995 federal felony conviction for conspiracy to steal mail and use stolen credit cards.

Stockman also admitted that the Armscor revolver was stolen and the 12-gauge shotgun was an illegal sawed-off shotgun. Both firearms were discovered by law enforcement officers during a search of Stockman's residence on Jan. 4, 2003, Graves said.

Stockman was originally charged with being a felon in possession of a firearm in an indictment returned by a federal grand jury on Sept. 12, 2003, in Springfield. **Stockman** had initially filed a plea agreement with the court clerk on Nov. 17, 2003, and was scheduled to appear in court for a plea hearing on Dec. 1, 2003. However, Graves said, **Stockman** failed to appear for the plea hearing and remained a fugitive until June 10, 2004, when he was arrested in Independence, Mo.

This case was prosecuted by Deputy U.S. Attorney Michael A. Jones. The case was

investigated by the Wright County, Mo., Sheriff's Department and the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives.

This news release, as well as additional information about the office of the United States Attorney for the Western District of Missouri, is available on-line at www.usdoj.gov/usao/mow